

AT 24, Goldie Hawn was dubbed "television's dumbest and most delectable bonbon" by America's Look magazine. Now 46, she still looks great, but gives a sigh of exasperation when asked if she fits her public image of loveable helplessness.

"I couldn't be more not that person," she says.

"I've been a worker bee since I was 17 and running my own dance-teaching business."

24-CARAT GOLDIE!

'I'm not
always
what
I seem...'



The golden giggle, which first surfaced in *Laugh-In* in the Sixties, propelled a major movie career — peaking in 1980 when *Private Benjamin* grossed \$110 million. But the Eighties were not so kind — *Swing Shift*, *Protocol*, *Wildcats* and *Overboard* were all disappointments.

"For years I carried movies by myself," she says, "and some I carried well and others I just collapsed under. You're just a product, basically, a commodity — they eat you until you have nothing left. It's the beast in the jungle and we're fair game."

With the conspicuous assistance of Mel Gibson, 1990's *Bird On A Wire* earned a healthy \$70 million, but it still left many critics and



● Goldie Hawn with on-screen and off-screen partner Kurt Russell.



audiences feeling that Goldie's adorable airhead routine was wearing thin.

Changing an image that has become entrenched over more than 20 years is hard work, and for the past year Goldie has labored almost non-stop on projects she hopes will banish the "cutes" forever. *Deceived*, a taut thriller that's the first and riskiest of these, has done well in the U.S. and looks set for similar success in Australia.

Next came *Alone Together*, a drama about a stripper and her son. And, at the moment, Goldie is working on *Housesitter*, a rather dark, off-centre comedy co-starring Steve Martin.

"*Deceived*, in which my character discovers her husband (John Heard) isn't the man she thought he was, is a departure movie. It's my first flat-out drama," Goldie says, "and I had to be very aware of my personal nuances and my laugh, to make sure that I tempered a certain part of me and not let it bleed through."

Deceived director Damian Harris adds: "It's a stretch for the audience, not for her."

"I mean, Harrison Ford can play any number of goofy nice guys, then play a complete ----. Why not? It's the same for Goldie."

Goldie has recently nabbed a seven-picture contract with Disney's fledgling Hollywood Pictures, a contract reportedly worth \$30 million.

Despite the recent upheavals in her career, her private life could not be more stable. But until twice-divorced Goldie met Kurt Russell seven years ago, there were always problems with men.

"It's been hard for me to find a guy in the past. I confuse men because I am not always what I seem," Goldie says.

"I've got many sides to me. I am a very strong personality and some guys find that sort of strength hard to cope with . . . but not Kurt."

*From Tim Appel
in New York*

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RIGHT: Goldie with co-star John Heard in a scene from *Deceived*.

